



## PROCLAMATION

### National Preparedness Month September 2008

*WHEREAS, the damage wrought by disasters can exact enormous effects on communities; destroying homes, land, businesses and testing the will of the citizens. However, with proper preparation and education the destructive effects of these tragedies can be minimized; and*

*WHEREAS, the Federal Department of Homeland Security has designated September as **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH** to encourage the public to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools; and*

*WHEREAS, the goal of **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH** is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks and to encourage individuals to take action to prepare themselves and their families; and*

*WHEREAS, to recognize this month's **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH** initiative the City's Office of Emergency Services is announcing the launch of the City's "Get READY Santa Barbara" Campaign; and*

*WHEREAS, the City Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Services campaign will include: two open house events in September, a five-part series on disaster preparedness airing on City TV Channel 18, and weekly preparedness tips on the Office of Emergency Services web page; and*

*WHEREAS, in the true spirit of neighbor helping neighbor, the City would like to recognize and thank the CERT graduates who gave their time and energy in supporting the County by volunteering to staff the GAP Fire Call Center and provided evacuation information and offered a caring ear to those affected by the fire. Their long hours of volunteerism helped concerned residents, County EOC, the Los Padres National Forest and first responders.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby declare September as **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH** and encourage all residents to prepare, plan and stay informed.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2008.*

MARTY BLUM, MAYOR